

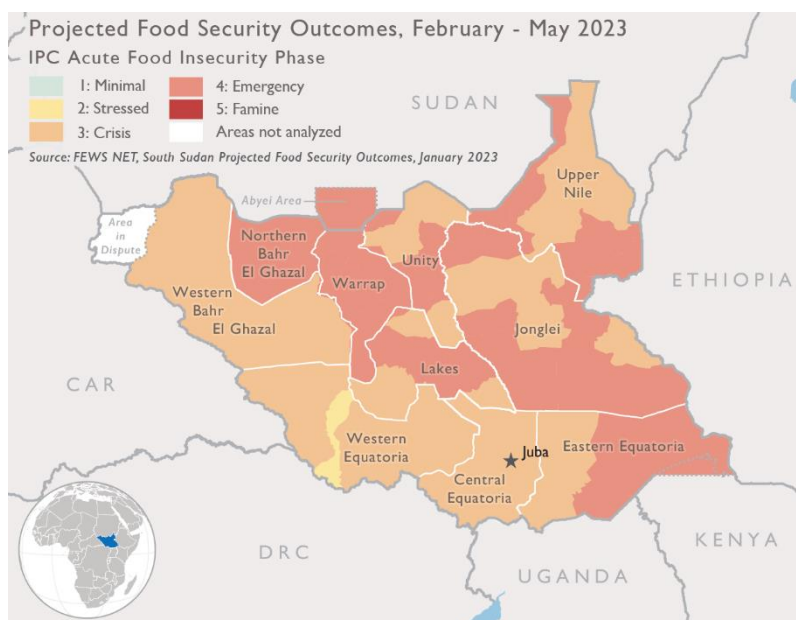
South Sudan – Complex Emergency

FEBRUARY 17, 2023

SITUATION AT A GLANCE

<p>12.4 MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Population of South Sudan</p> <p>UN – November 2022</p>	<p>9.1 MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Number of People in Need of Humanitarian Assistance</p> <p>UN – November 2022</p>	<p>7.8 MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Number of People Facing Acute Food Insecurity in 2023 Lean Season</p> <p>IPC TWG – November 2022</p>	<p>2.2 MILLION</p> <p>Estimated Number of IDPs in South Sudan</p> <p>UN – December 2022</p>	<p>2.3 MILLION</p> <p>South Sudanese Refugees in Neighboring Countries</p> <p>UNHCR – January 2023</p>
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- Ongoing violence in South Sudan resulted in the deaths of at least three on-duty aid workers—as well as four Red Cross Volunteers—in early 2023, while also continuing to impede the delivery of humanitarian assistance, relief actors report.
- USAID/BHA provides more than \$288 million in additional humanitarian assistance for South Sudan in response to deteriorating acute food security conditions.
- More than 3 million people are likely to face Emergency—IPC 4—outcomes or worse due to conflict and climatic shocks during the coming lean season, according to FEWS NET.



TOTAL U.S. GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN FUNDING

For the South Sudan Response in FY 2023

USAID/BHA¹

\$345,005,208

For complete funding breakdown with partners, see detailed chart on page 6

Total \$345,005,208

¹ USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance (USAID/BHA)

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

Violence Against Aid Workers Escalates as Security Conditions Deteriorate Across South Sudan

Insecurity continues to endanger civilians, including relief actors, and disrupt humanitarian operations in South Sudan. In early 2023, three on-duty aid workers were killed during two separate attacks in South Sudan's Abyei Administrative Area and Jonglei State, while four off-duty humanitarian volunteers were killed during clashes in Central Equatoria State on February 2, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA) and the South Sudan Red Cross. On January 7, amid escalating violent clashes between armed groups from the Lou Nuer, Bor Dinka, and Murle communities in the Greater Pibor Administrative Area (GPAA) and Jonglei, a humanitarian aid worker was killed while guarding humanitarian commodities in Jonglei's Duk County; humanitarian commodities were also looted from the facility, the UN reports. Separately, armed actors attacked Rumameer Village in Abyei on January 2, killing 13 individuals, including two on-duty humanitarian workers. In addition, unknown armed actors continue to attack humanitarian compounds in the GPAA; these attacks are likely criminal in nature and at least partially motivated by the worsening economic conditions in the area, relief actors report. For example, armed actors attacked a humanitarian compound in GPAA's Pibor County on January 18, during which they severely injured at least one staff member at the compound and looted humanitarian assets, according to the UN.

Ongoing attacks against aid workers in South Sudan are occurring against the backdrop of ongoing insecurity and growing displacement of persons across South Sudan. For instance, armed youth attacks and cattle raids in Abyei on January 27 resulted in the deaths of 18 individuals, injuries to nine others, and the displacement of thousands of people, according to local authorities and the UN Interim Security Force in Abyei. Meanwhile, armed clashes in Fashoda County's Kodok town in Upper Nile displaced more than 22,000 people between November and late December, the UN reports. Security conditions in the GPAA and Jonglei have also continued to deteriorate following the resumption of armed clashes between Lou Nuer, Bor Dinka, and Murle armed groups on December 21, displacing an estimated 50,000 people in GPAA as of February 1, according to the South Sudan Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) Forum.

Recent conflict and the resultant widespread displacement of people are exacerbating already high levels of humanitarian needs throughout South Sudan, while attacks against aid workers and deteriorating security conditions continue to constrain relief actors' ability to deliver emergency relief supplies to populations in need, according to the UN. For instance, armed youths looted and destroyed NGO facilities during a December 26, 2022, attack against Jonglei's Gumuruk town, forcing humanitarian actors to leave the town and temporarily suspend all activities. Moreover, fighting in Upper Nile State's Fashoda County resulted in the suspension of humanitarian activities in Kodok town. In response, the U.S. Embassy in South Sudan has strongly condemned the recent targeted attacks on humanitarian workers and has called on South Sudan's leaders to hold accountable those responsible for previous subnational violence, including clashes in GPAA, Jonglei, and Upper Nile.

USAID Announces More than \$288 Million in Additional Humanitarian Assistance to South Sudan

U.S. Ambassador to South Sudan Michael J. Adler announced more than \$288 million in additional USAID/BHA humanitarian assistance funding to support crisis-affected populations in South Sudan on February 16, as populations across the country experience severe levels of acute food insecurity and malnutrition. The additional \$288 million in FY 2023 funding will enable USAID/BHA partner the UN

World Food Program (WFP) to provide life-saving food assistance and nutrition support to an estimated 2.2 million people, as well as provide logistical support to transport humanitarian cargo and personnel to hard-to-reach areas with the greatest need.

South Sudan Populations Projected to Experience Widespread Emergency Levels of Acute Food Insecurity

Severe seasonal flooding, conflict, and poor macroeconomic conditions—including access to income sources and low purchasing power—are driving persistent food insecurity conditions across much of South Sudan, with Crisis—IPC 3—or worse food security outcomes likely to remain widespread across the country through February, according to the Famine Early Warning Systems Network (FEWS NET).² Moreover, an estimated 7.8 million people—approximately two-thirds of South Sudan’s population—are likely to face Crisis or worse levels of acute food insecurity during the coming April-to-July lean season, IPC reports. Specifically, an estimated 3 million people in 41 of South Sudan’s 78 counties are projected to face Emergency—IPC 4—levels of acute food insecurity during the lean season, while approximately 43,000 people in GPAA’s Pibor County, Jonglei State’s Fangak, Canal/Pigi, and Akobo counties, and Unity State’s Leer and Mayendit counties are likely to experience Catastrophe—IPC 5—levels of acute food insecurity.³

Despite the improved availability of food following the main harvest season, staple food prices in December 2022 were more than double compared to the same period the previous year and more than three times the five-year average, according to FEWS NET. The atypically high food costs are reportedly due to currency depreciation, high import and distribution costs, and extensive crop and livestock production losses. Specifically, above-average rainfall combined with slow recession of floodwater in the Sudd Wetland and White Nile River Basin impeded trade flows and livestock and crop production from October to mid-December. Meanwhile, flooding and persistent violent conflict continue to displace households, disrupt livelihoods, and result in the loss of productive assets across the country, while also hindering the delivery of humanitarian assistance.

In response, USAID/BHA continues to support partners providing emergency food assistance to food-insecure households across South Sudan. With support from USAID/BHA and other donors, WFP reached 1.3 million people in South Sudan—including refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs)—with emergency assistance in November, delivering more than 11,000 metric tons (MT) of food and nutrition assistance and distributing more than \$2.7 million in cash assistance. Specifically, the UN agency conducted general food distributions and nutrition, school feeding, food assistance for assets, and smallholder agriculture market access activities to support vulnerable populations across the country.

² The Integrated Food Security Phase Classification (IPC) is a multi-partner initiative that developed a standardized scale to classify the severity and magnitude of food insecurity. The IPC scale, which is comparable across countries and time, ranges from Minimal—IPC 1—to Famine—IPC 5—for acute food insecurity.

³ A Famine—IPC 5—classification applies to a wider geographical location, while the term classification of Catastrophe—also IPC 5—refers to a household. A household in Catastrophe has an extreme lack of food at the household level even with full employment of coping strategies. Famine is determined when more than 20 percent of households in an area are experiencing Catastrophe, when global acute malnutrition levels exceed 30 percent, and when the crude mortality rate exceeds two people per 10,000 persons per day.

KEY FIGURES



1.3 Million

People reached with emergency food and nutrition assistance by WFP in November, with support from USAID/BHA and other donors



101

Emergency health kits, capable of supporting 51,300 people for three months, distributed across seven counties by USAID/BHA partner the UN World Health Organization (WHO) in January 2023



13

USAID/BHA partners implementing critical WASH programs

U.S. GOVERNMENT RESPONSE

FOOD SECURITY

USAID/BHA supports multiple UN agencies and NGOs to bolster food security, livelihood, and early recovery efforts in South Sudan. USAID/BHA partners provide emergency food assistance—including cash transfers for food, regionally and internationally procured commodities, and U.S. in-kind food assistance—to food-insecure households across the country.

USAID/BHA continues to support WFP to sustain emergency food assistance as food needs increase across South Sudan, and USAID/BHA and U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration (State/PRM) NGO partners provide agricultural inputs, fishing kits, and livelihood training to support at-risk populations.

HEALTH

USAID/BHA partners continue to provide health care services in South Sudan through community health facilities and mobile medical units (MMUs). Through MMUs, partners provide a range of primary, maternal, and mental health care services. South Sudan has the highest rate of maternal mortality in the world, and MMUs provide life-saving maternal and newborn health care services to reduce the prevalence of maternal and infant deaths.

USAID/BHA also supports integrated community case management services in South Sudan, which deliver life-saving curative interventions for common childhood illnesses, particularly in areas with limited access to facility-based services.

Moreover, to mitigate the effects of the measles outbreak in South Sudan, USAID/BHA and State/PRM partners continue to strengthen community health coordination, provide support for vaccination campaigns, and assist in training local health care workers in infection prevention and control methods. Additionally, State/PRM supports the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and NGOs to address the health care needs of refugees and other vulnerable populations in South Sudan. Health interventions are integrated with nutrition and water, sanitation, and hygiene (WASH) services wherever possible to ensure a sustainable system of clinical services and support.

WASH

USAID/BHA and State/PRM support partners implementing critical WASH programs, including activities to provide access to safe drinking water, handwashing facilities, sanitation services, and solid waste disposal. Additional WASH programming includes interventions to help prevent cholera outbreaks among vulnerable populations, as well as mitigate gender-based violence (GBV) risks by providing safe access to latrines, sanitation services, and other WASH facilities. Additionally, USAID/BHA and State/PRM continue to support efforts by UN and NGO partners to



1 Million

Children aged 6-59 months and pregnant and lactating women and girls treated for malnutrition between January and October 2022 by WFP and other USAID/BHA partners



12

Number of USAID/BHA partners implementing critical protection interventions



24,900

MTs of humanitarian cargo transported in 2022 by the South Sudan Logistics Cluster, with USAID/BHA support

respond to recent flooding throughout South Sudan by rehabilitating WASH infrastructure and providing WASH supplies to flood-affected populations. USAID/BHA also supports hygiene promotion activities through public health campaigns and the distribution of essential supplies, such as dignity and hygiene kits, soap, and water buckets.

NUTRITION

USAID/BHA supports partners to prevent and treat wasting—the deadliest form of malnutrition—across South Sudan. With USAID/BHA support, NGOs, the UN Children’s Fund (UNICEF), and WFP provide nutrition assistance—including specialized food products to treat wasting—to children and pregnant and lactating women countrywide. Using a community-based approach, USAID/BHA partners promote recommended infant and young child feeding practices through one-on-one counseling and group education to manage wasting.

PROTECTION

USAID/BHA supports multi-sector protection interventions that ensure the safety and dignity of vulnerable people in South Sudan. Protection activities include assistance to GBV survivors through case management, mobile emergency response teams, psychosocial support services, and referrals to health specialists, as well as assessments to integrate protection into multi-sector emergency response activities. Additionally, State/PRM partners provide protection services to IDPs, refugees, and conflict-affected communities countrywide, including family reunification interventions, GBV prevention and response programs, legal assistance, and mental health and psychosocial support activities. USAID/BHA and State/PRM also support coordination and capacity-building among protection actors in South Sudan.

LOGISTICS

USAID/BHA and State/PRM provide countrywide support to the humanitarian response through the WFP-managed UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS) and the South Sudan Logistics Cluster, the coordinating body for humanitarian logistics activities, composed of UN agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders. UNHAS offers air transportation to relief actors throughout the country, while the South Sudan Logistics Cluster provides coordination and information management services for humanitarian workers, delivery and common warehousing of essential relief commodities, and geographical information system mapping. Additionally, USAID/BHA partner the International Organization for Migration (IOM) supports humanitarian partner responses across South Sudan by procuring, storing, and transporting critical relief supplies, including emergency shelter and WASH commodities.

CONTEXT IN BRIEF

- The January 2005 signing of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement between the Government of Sudan and the southern-based Sudan People's Liberation Army officially ended more than two decades of north–south conflict during which famine, fighting, and disease killed an estimated 2 million people and displaced at least 4.5 million others within Sudan. In July 2011, South Sudan became an independent state following a referendum earlier in the year.
- On December 15, 2013, clashes erupted between factions within the Government of South Sudan in the capital city of Juba and quickly spread into a protracted national conflict, prompting displacement and humanitarian needs. On December 20, 2013, USAID activated a Disaster Assistance Response Team (DART) to lead the U.S. Government (USG) response to the crisis in South Sudan and stood up a Washington, D.C.-based Response Management Team (RMT) to support the DART.
- After nearly seven years, USAID transitioned the South Sudan DART and RMT to a normalized response under USAID/BHA on November 6 and November 20, 2020, respectively. USAID/BHA remains committed to maintaining a robust humanitarian response in South Sudan, and USAID/BHA partners continue to carry out life-saving programs to meet the humanitarian needs of the South Sudanese people.
- On October 5, 2022, U.S. Ambassador Michael J. Adler reissued a declaration of humanitarian need in South Sudan for FY 2023 due to ongoing conflict, population displacement, inflation, restricted humanitarian access, and severe flooding, all of which have significantly exacerbated food insecurity and humanitarian needs.

USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2023⁴

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER	ACTIVITY	LOCATION	AMOUNT
USAID/BHA			
Catholic Relief Services (CRS)	Agriculture, Economic Recovery and Market Systems, Disaster Risk Reduction Policy and Practice, Health, Nutrition, WASH	Eastern Equatoria, Jonglei	\$17,206,056
International Medical Corps (IMC)	Health, Protection, Nutrition	Central Equatoria, GPAA, Jonglei, Upper Nile	\$5,000,000
Mercy Corps	WASH	Unity	\$229,177
Nonviolent Peaceforce	Protection	Central Equatoria, Jonglei, Unity, Warrap	\$4,000,000
Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC)	Complementary Services, Humanitarian Coordination, Information Management, and Assessments (HCIMA), Protection	Countrywide	\$11,151,438
OCHA	HCIMA	Countrywide	\$1,500,000
Tearfund	Agriculture, Health, Nutrition, Protection, WASH	Central Equatoria, GPAA, Jonglei	\$5,341,652
WFP	Food Assistance—Food Vouchers, Regional, and International Procurement; Logistics Support; Nutrition	Countrywide	\$150,000,000
	Food Assistance—U.S. In-Kind Food Aid	Countrywide	\$145,105,697
World Vision	Complementary Services	Upper Nile	\$5,436,790
	Program Support		\$34,398
TOTAL USAID/BHA FUNDING			\$345,005,208
TOTAL USG HUMANITARIAN FUNDING FOR THE SOUTH SUDAN RESPONSE IN FY 2023			\$345,005,208

⁴Year of funding indicates the date of commitment or obligation, not appropriation, of funds. Funding figures reflect publicly announced funding as of February 17, 2023.

PUBLIC DONATION INFORMATION

- The most effective way people can assist relief efforts is by making cash contributions to humanitarian organizations that are conducting relief operations. A list of humanitarian organizations that are accepting cash donations for disaster responses around the world can be found at interaction.org.
- USAID encourages cash donations because they allow aid professionals to procure the exact items needed, often in the affected region; reduce the burden on scarce resources, such as transportation routes, staff time, and warehouse space; can be transferred very quickly and without transportation costs; support the economy of the disaster-stricken region; and ensure culturally, dietarily, and environmentally appropriate assistance.
- More information can be found at:
 - USAID Center for International Disaster Information: cidi.org
 - Information on relief activities of the humanitarian community can be found at reliefweb.int.

USAID/BHA bulletins appear on the USAID website at usaid.gov/humanitarian-assistance/where-we-work